

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## Luke 9:51-62

**Ice Breaker:** What is your favorite thing to do during/after a snowstorm? What was your most memorable moment during/after a snowstorm?

**Ice Breaker:** If you had an evening by the fireplace with a cup of hot chocolate, what fiction book would you re-read and why?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Spend a few minutes recalling some major points of Luke's Gospel from chapter 1-9. What do you remember? What did God teach you in the first section of Luke?
2. **Read Luke 9:51-56:** Why is this a turning point in Luke's gospel? What does verse 51 mean, specifically "he set his face to go to Jerusalem"? What should we expect to see in this new section of Luke?
3. Why did the people of Samaria not receive Jesus? Why would James and John think that telling fire to come down from heaven was a good solution to the rejection of Jesus? Is there any "good" in their question? Why did Jesus still rebuke it?
4. Take a moment to consider how your heart might turn toward quick justice and condemnation? When have you been wrongfully treated and responded too quickly or harshly? When has your heart wished evil or vindictive justice against others (personal or public figures), even if they might "deserve" it?
5. How might we change our own hearts to show compassion rather than condemnation? What does a heart full of compassion look like? How do we balance the need for justice and the call for compassion in our own hearts?
6. **Read Luke 9:57-62:** What is the issue with the first man that Jesus interacts with? How does the man seem to view his "home" vs how Jesus sees "home"?
7. Are earthly, homey comforts distracting you from the mission of God? How can we in the 21st century, show our commitment to the Lord through the things (our homes) we have? How can we make sure earthly comforts don't become our goal in life?
8. What is the issue with the second man? How should we interpret his "request?" How might our lives show a desire to follow Jesus "on our own time" rather than on God's time? How can we change this?
9. What is the issue with the third man? How is his old life holding him back from following Jesus? How are we holding on to our old life, rather than giving up all for Jesus?
10. What does the phrase "the cost of discipleship" mean to you? How do you see that playing out in your own life? What things are you holding on to, keeping you from fully following Jesus?